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THE FRESCOES FOR THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

The Fresco decorations of the new Houses of Parliament in London, are now nearly determined. The Queen's Robing Room will contain the legend of King Arthur, chiefly in fresco; and Mr. Dyce, R. A., to whose pencil the subject is entrusted, has undertaken to complete the work within a period not exceeding six years, at the rate of £800 a year. It was a commission of this very nature which Van Dyck is said to have received from Charles the First. The sides of the Banquetting House at Whitehall, were to have told the history and procession of the Order of the Garter; but bad times arose, a civil war and an impoverished exchequer, intervened—and the subject which Van Dyck would have ennobled, was reserved for the far different pencil of Benjamin West. This commission to Mr. Dyce is suggestive of other and less promising times. All that the enthusiastic Barry received for his six large pictures in the Great Room of the Society of Arts was £800.

PORTRAIT OF WOOLLETT THE ENGRAVER, BY STUART.

This portrait has been presented to the English National Collection by a Mr. Farrer. The *Athæneum* says of it—"The picture is from the hand of Mr. G. Stuart, an American Artist; in the ready and flippant execution of the West manner,—yet preserving all that individuality so essential to true portraiture."

SALE OF MASTER-PIECES AT ROME.

There is a rumor circulating among the French papers that the republicans at Rome "raise money by the sale to English and Russian merchants of the great master-pieces of the human mind that has made Rome the seat of a wider worship and more extended pilgrimage than her religious throne."

THE STOWE MINIATURES.

The rarest of these—Lucy, Countess of Bedford, by Hilliard, brought the largest price, viz: £31 10*s*. This celebrated lady was commended in verse by Donne, Daniel, Drayton and Ben Jonson. Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, (Old Sarah, when young,) by Zincke, brought £22 11*s* 6*d*. Henry Carey, Lord Hunsdon (Queen Elizabeth's cousin) by Hilliard, from the Lady Betty Germaine and Strawberry Hill Collections, sold for £14 3*s* 6*d*. Mrs. Craggs, by Zincke, brought £13 2*s* 6*d*. Pope the poet, (said to have been presented by the poet himself to Mrs. Knight,) sold for £8 15*s*., and Madame de Maintenon, by Petitot, (given to Mrs. Grenville by Lord Bolingbroke's second wife, the niece of Madame de Maintenon,) for £12 5*s*.

SCHLEGEL'S WORKS ON ART.

AMONG works lately published in England, is a translation of the *Æsthetic and Miscellaneous Works of* FREDERICK VON SCHLEGEL. This edition contains "Letters on Christian Art," the "Essay on Gothic Architecture," and that "On the Limits of the Beautiful." The letters on Christian Arts grew out of Schlegel's study of the paintings in the Louvre, "when the Louvre was gorgeous with the spoils of Europe, and its long galleries were consecrated by the master-pieces of every school."

PICKERSGILL'S PICTURE OF "THE BURIAL OF HAROLD."

SOME excitement has been created in the artist circles in London of late, by a rumor, that this distinguished production, which has been purchased by government for the New Houses of Parliament, was a plagiarism from a picture hanging in a place of public entertainment, the Wine Shades, in Leicester Square. After some delay, during which Mr. Pickersgill's reputation seems to have suffered considerably, and the subject was discussed in the newspapers, he bestirred himself in the matter, and completely set the injurious report at rest. It turned out that the Wine Shades' work was a copy of the "Harold," which had been made from a wood engraving in the *London Journal*.